Prifysgol **Wrecsam**
Wrexham University

Module specification

Module Code	VEN401
Module Title	Diagnostic Procedures and Parasitology
Level	4
Credit value	20
Faculty	FSLS
HECoS Code	100532
Cost Code	GAAN
Pre-requisite module	N/A

Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Core/Optional/Standalone
Foundation degree (FdSc) Veterinary Nursing	Core

Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	36 hrs
Placement tutor support hours	0 hrs
Supervised learning hours e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision hours	0 hrs
Active learning and teaching hours total	**3**6 hrs
Placement hours	0 hrs
Guided independent study hours	164 hrs
Module duration (Total hours)	200 hrs

Module aims

Diagnostic procedures are essential for a correct patient diagnosis within the veterinary practice. Veterinary nurses routinely assist under the direction of the veterinary surgeon in a range of diagnostic procedures. This module will cover the preparation, maintenance and correct use of a wide range of diagnostic procedures and laboratory equipment. Students will gain an understanding of the principles which will enable them to safely use a range of imaging techniques and laboratory tests. Students will be able to recognise normal and abnormal parameters and their significance for the treatment and care of their patients.

This module will also cover the important topic of parasitology, identification methods, their life cycles and strategies to treat and control them.

range of species in addition to cats and dogs holders of veterinary nursing degrees should be competent in providing nursing care to animals that are commonly kept as pets in the UK. This will include rabbits, small mammals and appropriate species of reptiles and birds. In addition to the above animals, a level of basic knowledge and competence in the husbandry and nursing care of horses, endemic UK wildlife and exotic species not commonly seen in the UK
https://www.qaa.ac.uk/the-quality-code/subject-benchmark-statements/subject-benchmark-statement-veterinary-nursing

Module Learning Outcomes

At the end of this module, students will be able to:

1	Explain the principles and suitability of a range of diagnostic imaging techniques, used in practice, to assist with the diagnosis process.
2	Describe patient positioning and quality of produced image for a range of projections
3	Identify and discuss laboratory tests, including interpretation of results against standard parameters
4	Explain the processes and protocols for collecting, preserving and transporting animal samples.
5	Identify parasites affecting animals in the UK and describe their life cycles in context to treatment strategies.

RCVS Standards	Day One Competencies (DOC)	Day One Skills (DOS)
Learning outcomes for this module are mapped to the following RCVS day one competences (DOC) and day one skills (DOS)	7, 21, 22, 23, 24	2.2, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 5.7, 5.8, 5.9 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6

External Reference points

QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for Veterinary Nursing: https://www.qaa.ac.uk/the-quality-code/subject-benchmark-statements/subject-benchmark-statement-veterinary-nursing

RCVS Fitness to Practise Guide

https://www.rcvs.org.uk/news-and-views/publications/fitness-to-practise-a-guide-for-uk-providers-of-veterinary/?destination=%2Fnews-and-views/publications%2F

RCVS Day One Skills for Veterinary Nurses

https://www.rcvs.org.uk/document-library/rcvs-day-one-skills-for-veterinary-nurses/

RCVS Day One Competences for Veterinary Nurses

https://www.rcvs.org.uk/document-library/day-one-competences-for-veterinary-nurses/

RCVS Code of Professional Conduct for Veterinary Nurses

https://www.rcvs.org.uk/document-library/code-of-professional-conduct-for-veterinary-nurses/

Assessment

Indicative Assessment Tasks:
This section outlines the type of assessment task the student will be expected to complete as part of the module. More details will be made available in the relevant academic year module handbook.

Formative

Practical and laboratory sessions with peer review, quizzes. A range of modalities will be used by the tutor to provide feedback to students.

Summative

Assessment 1: Coursework, digital informative leaflet for practice clients

Assessment 2: In-class test (unseen, 2 hours, MCQs, short answer questions and problem solving questions)

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Duration/Word Count	Weighting (%)	Alternative assessment, if applicable
1	5	Coursework		30	NA
2	1, 2, 3, 4	In-class test	2 hours	70	NA

Derogations

This module is mapped to the RCVS Day One Competences (DOC) and Day One Skills (DOS). To gain a pass in this module a minimum mark of 40% must be achieved by the student in each summative assessment element.

Learning and Teaching Strategies

A range of learning and teaching strategies will be employed, and will focus on student centred teaching. Delivery of content will be conducted in the clinical suite to apply theory to practice. Teaching sessions will also be delivered in lecture rooms and the laboratory. The emphasis will be on active learning for each session delivered.

The clinical suite will be used by the students to develop their practical skills which are linked to the RCVS Day One Skills list.

Welsh Elements

Elements of the Welsh language and culture will be embedded throughout the module where possible.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

Learning outcome 1

Principles of radiography / dental imaging / MRI / CT / ultrasound / scintigraphy and endoscopy / Ionizing Radiation Regulations and Health and Safety legislation / radiation effects / radiation dosimeters / PPE /radiation protection devices / factors in producing the image.

Learning outcome 2

Rules of positioning and patient preparation / positioning for a range of projections / terminology / positioning aids and markers / restraint / BVA / KC scoring schemes / contrast mediums / recording the image / processing / common faults.

Learning outcome 3

Laboratory tests to include, haematology / urinalysis / microbiology / parasitology / clinical chemistry and immunology testing. Interpretation of abnormal / normal in patients / recording

Laboratory equipment required / maintenance. Safe handling and laboratory good practice / correct disposal of reagents / samples etc.

Learning outcome 4

Protocol for collecting, storing and preserving a range of samples / common problems / recording and preparing correct documentation to external laboratories / preparing accurate and detailed history / Health and safety considerations.

Learning outcome 5

Taxonomy and common names / endo and ectoparasites / protozoal parasites / public health risks / identification / lifecycles / parasites in body systems to include; gastrointestinal / cardiovascular / respiratory / skin / urogenital / eye / nervous system parasites / parasitic control measures and advice to clients / client compliance / pet travel and implications.

Indicative Bibliography

Please note the essential reads and other indicative reading are subject to annual review and update.

Essential Reads:

Ackerman, N. (ed.) (2016), *Aspinall's Complete Textbook of Veterinary Nursing*. 3rd ed. Edinburgh: Elsevier.

Elshekha, H. M., Wright, I. and McGarry, J. (2018), *Parasites and Pets, A Veterinary Nursing Guide*. Oxfordshire: CABI.

Sirois, M. (2020), *Laboratory Procedures for Veterinary Technicians*. 7th ed. St. Louis: Elsevier.

Other indicative reading:

Aspinall, V. (2019), *Clinical Procedures in Veterinary Nursing*, 4th ed. Edinburgh: Elsevier.

Brown, M., Brown, L.C. (2018), *Lavin's Radiography for Veterinary Technicians*. 6th ed. St Louis: Elsevier.

The Veterinary Nurse, Practical international peer-reviewed journal. London: MA Healthcare Ltd.

Veterinary Nursing Journal. Abingdon: Taylor & Francis Ltd.

Administrative Information

For office use only	
Initial approval date	5/11/2019
With effect from date	28/29/2020
Date and details of revision	09/12/2025 – Updated mapping to RCVS DOC and DOS
Version number	2